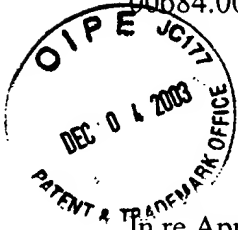


00684.002173.1

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Takehiko SUZUKI, et al.

Application No.: 09/597,210

Filed: June 20, 2000

For: AN IMAGE FORMING  
APPARATUS

Examiner: Quana M. Grainger

Group Art Unit: 2852

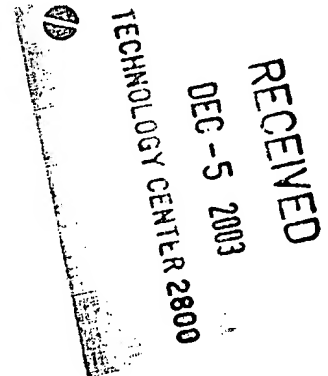
Confirmation No.: 5981

December 4, 2003

*#16/Amend E*  
*Answer*  
*12/9/03*

**Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
Post Office Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE

Sir:

This is responsive to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (the "Notice") dated November 4, 2003, and supplemental to the Amendment filed on October 22, 2003, in the above-identified application, as follows.

The Notice indicates that the October 22<sup>nd</sup> Amendment is considered to be non-compliant because it has failed to meet the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121.

Specifically, the Notice indicates that a complete listing of all of the claims is not present in the Amendment. It is understood that the finding of noncompliance is predicated on the basis that the Amendment does not include an express statement regarding the status of